Public Policy Advocacy

Robyn Litke, Coordinator Safe Communities Coalition of the Red River Valley 2007 Colorado Prevention Summit September 11, 2007

Presentation Objectives

- Define public policy advocacy
- Examine the impact of public policy
- Discuss public policy planning and messaging
- Look at the legislative process
- Learn advocacy methods
- Identify public policy advocacy tools

Public Policy

- Definition
- Levels
 - Local (City or County)
 - State
 - Federal
- Impact

Planning

- Assess
 - Organization
 - Climate
 - Partners and opposition
- Set goals
- Determine target audience
 - Attitudes
 - Knowledge

Message

Dollars and cents

Counterarguments

Opinion polls

Working with the Legislature

- Process
- Lobbyists
- Expert Witnesses
- Testifying

Factors

- Broad-based coalition
- Bipartisan support
- Governor's support
- Time

Methods

Media

Personal contacts

Rallies



Tools

- Prepared materials
- Sample legislation
 - MADD
 - www.nculto.org

Summary

- Public policy is a tool to help achieve our goals
- Public policy advocacy requires careful planning
- Formulating the right message is essential
- A variety of methods and tools exist for public policy advocacy

Thank you!

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